

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PHNOM 06115 110630Z

14-11
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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O 110540Z APR 75 ZFF-6
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 254
INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE
COMUSSAG IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 6115

EXDIS

DEPT FOR THE SECRETARY

CINCPAC FOR ADMIRAL GAYLER

USSAG FOR GENERAL BURNS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AEMR, MOPS, PINS, CB, US
SUBJECT: SITREP, PHNOM PENH PERIMETER, MORNING APRIL 11

REF: PHNOM PENH 6093

1. REFTTEL, PARA 3, OUTLINED THE SITUATION 24 HOURS
AGO AT TROUBLE SPOTS AROUND PHNOM PENH PERIMETER,
BEGINNING AT HIGHWAY 4 TO THE WEST AND WORKING
CLOCKWISE AROUND THE CITY. THIS MESSAGE IS AN
UPDATE, KEYED TO THAT MESSAGE.

2. A. AT A POINT DUE NORTH OF BEK CHAN THE ENEMY
HAD BEEN WITHIN 2KM (60MM MORTAR RANGE) OF KANTAU
AMMO DEPOT. IN OPERATIONS APRIL 10 THE PREVIOUS LINE
WAS VERY NEARLY RESTORED TO 3KM FROM THE AMMO DUMP, WITH
A FANK CLAIM OF 150 ENEMY KIA.

B. IN THE AREA SOUTHEAST OF TUOL LEAP ALONG
RAILROAD TRACK ABANDONED THE PREVIOUS DAY BY 2

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BATTALIONS OF 81ST BRIGADE WHICH WITHDREW TO SAMRONG,

THESE BATTALIONS REGAINED THEIR PREVIOUS POSITIONS.

C. NORTHEAST OF TUOL LEAP AND ALMOST DUE NORTH OF POCHENTONG, THERE WAS A 1.5 KILOMETER GAP IN FANK LINES BETWEEN THE 28TH AND 45TH BRIGADES. WE NOW KNOW THAT THIS GAP HAS BEEN OCCUPIED BY TROOPS OF 14TH KC REGIMENT. ALTHOUGH THEY DID NOT DEEPEN THE SALIENT, WHICH LIES AT 3.5 KM FROM THE AIRPORT, ELEMENTS OF THE 14TH KC REGT ATTACKED THE FANK 45 BRIGADE FLANK IN SUFFICIENT FORCE TO WIDEN THE GAP FROM 1.5 TO 3 KILOMETERS. THIS OBVIOUSLY GIVES THE ENEMY A BROADER FRONT IN WHICH TO PLACE HEAVY WEAPONS DIRECTED AT THE AIRPORT.

D. IN THE AREA FARTHER TO THE NORTHEAST ON THE 84 EAST-WEST GRID LINE, THE EARLIER FANK POSITIONS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN REESTABLISHED.

E., F., AND G. THERE HAS BEEN RELATIVELY NO CHANGE IN THE PENINSULA AREA BETWEEN THE TONLE SAP AND MEKONG, ON THE EAST BANK OF THE MEKONG, AND IN THE SOUTHEAST. THE SOUTHWEST AREA TO THE SOUTH OF HIGHWAY 4 WAS ALSO QUIET.

3. WE UNDERSTAND INFORMALLY THAT USSAG SHARES APPROXIMATELY THE ESTIMATE CONTAINED IN PARA 3H., REFTTEL, OF ENEMY BATTALIONS AND NUMBERS OPPOSING THE 1ST AND 2ND FANK DIVISIONS. INDICATIONS FROM HERE ARE THAT THE MAIN ENEMY EFFORT WOULD BE AGAINST FANK'S 2ND DIVISION.
DEAN

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